



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

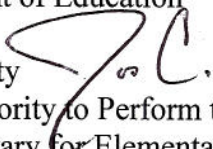
THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: June 17, 2009

TO: Bridget Dooling/Sharon Mar  
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
Office of Management and Budget

THROUGH: Kathy Axt  
Regulatory Information Management Services  
U.S. Department of Education

FROM: Joseph C. Conaty   
Delegated Authority to Perform the Functions and Duties of the  
Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education

SUBJECT: Emergency Clearance of New State Education Agency (SEA) Reporting  
Requirements Pertaining to The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act  
(ARRA)

This submission requests approval on an emergency basis for a new information collection that would require States to submit accountability plans and program evaluation reports for activities funded under Title II, Part D Subpart 1, Enhancing Education Through Technology (Ed Tech), of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended, which will receive supplemental funding under ARRA.

**Approval is requested on an emergency basis by June 30, 2009.** Approval is needed by June 30, 2009 so that the Department can issue relevant Program Guidance and Accountability Reporting Requirements on the date (June 30, 2009) that the Department issues the Title II, D ARRA grant awards. The ARRA is an unanticipated event. The Department has had to work under extremely tight timelines to develop program reporting requirements consistent with the unprecedented accountability and transparency ARRA demands. The Department wants to apprise States of the reporting requirements as soon as possible so that States will have sufficient time to comply. Issuing the reporting requirements along with the awards on July 1 gives states approximately 90 calendar days to comply with the requirements.

[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

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*The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.*

**Background**

ARRA provides \$650 million in fiscal year (FY) 2009 supplemental funds for the Title II, Part D, Ed Tech program. The Ed Tech ARRA funds are a one-time source of funds that supplement the approximately \$270 million of Ed Tech funds made available under the regular FY 2009 appropriation. The primary goal of the Ed Tech program is to improve student achievement through the effective use and integration of technology with curriculum and instruction.

The Ed Tech ARRA funds are subject to the same statutory goals and requirements as the Ed Tech funds made available under the regular FY 2009 appropriation. The Ed Tech statute requires SEAs to develop a process and accountability measures that the SEA will use to evaluate the extent to which LEA activities funded under the program are effective in integrating technology into curricula and instruction and the impact those activities have had on student achievement.

This submission requests emergency approval to require States to submit to the Department two written reports by September 30, 2009:

- (1) The State's most recent Ed Tech evaluation report; and
- (2) Evaluation accountability descriptions –
  - a) a description of how the SEA will ensure, for school years (SYs) 2009-2010 and 2010-2011, that LEAs and eligible local entities that receive Ed Tech funds (either competitively or by formula) are meeting their evaluation responsibilities; and
  - b) a description of the process and accountability measures that the SEA will use, for SYs 2009-2010 and 2010-2011, to evaluate the effectiveness of Ed Tech-supported activities.

Thank you for your prompt consideration of my request. If you have questions, please contact Enid Marshall of the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education's School Support and Technology Programs office at 202-708-9499 or [enid.marshall@ed.gov](mailto:enid.marshall@ed.gov).